

Juan Felipe Herrera for his dedication to poetry, his community, and education.

QUAIL VALLEY ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL TURNS 40

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Quail Valley Elementary School in Missouri City, Texas on its 40th anniversary.

This year marks 40 years of educating, learning, and helping our children succeed. A lot has changed since this school opened its doors in 1975 but one thing has remained the same—Quail Valley Elementary School's commitment to excellence. It has remained a great place for our future leaders to learn and grow. Thank you to the many teachers and faculty members who've worked so hard to make QVE great throughout the years. Without a dedicated team, our Quail Valley Eagles wouldn't be thriving like they are today.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Quail Valley Elementary School on 40 successful years of educating our leaders of tomorrow.

HONORING MR. CONNIE ENGLISH,
JR.

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2015

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Connie English, Jr. for his service to the labor movement as the State Legislative Director for the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART) and Vice President of Texas AFL-CIO. Mr. English's retirement comes after a thirty-three year tenure in organized labor. For the last three decades, Mr. English has dedicated his work to the labor movement, ensuring that railroad, bus, and transit workers' needs are being recognized.

During his years of work with the labor movement, Mr. English has made a direct impact on his community through his numerous roles at SMART, formerly known as the United Transportation Union, and with the Texas AFL-CIO. Mr. English began his labor career in 1982, where he served as Legislative Representative from 1982–1999, Delegate from 1984–1994, Local Chairman from 1984–1996, Vice General from 1985–1996, Secretary to the UTU Texas Legislative Board from 1986–1996, and Assistant State Legislative Director from 1996–1999.

Aside from his work with SMART and AFL-CIO, English continued to be a community leader as a member on the Bexar County Rail District Board. Mr. English is also a well-known advocate for transportation workers, working to organize statewide support on legislative issues and fighting for working people against tough odds, by serving as a labor caucus leader on numerous Texas campaigns. Mr. English has been happily married to his wife, Donna, for forty-nine years, and together

they have two children, six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

In honor of Mr. English's retirement and his dedication and leadership within the public service community, this statement is submitted.

IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER AS
NATIONAL DOWN SYNDROME
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of October as National Down Syndrome Awareness Month.

During the month of October, we celebrate the abilities of the more than 400,000 Americans who have Down syndrome and raise awareness of their accomplishments. We also recognize the difficulties that their families often face and the many opportunities that exist to support them.

Individuals born with Down syndrome face more natural and societal challenges than others, including barriers in access to quality education. We, as Americans, have made great strides over the years in better understanding the difficulties these individuals, and their families, face. Given that 1 in every 691 babies in this country is born with Down syndrome, it is imperative we continue our efforts.

Good work is being done all across this country to improve the health and quality of life for people with Down syndrome, but I want to give special attention to the efforts of the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress. The MDSC is an organization I have had the honor and pleasure of working with in recent years, and can attest that it has worked tirelessly for over thirty years to improve the educational and employment opportunities for children and adults with Down syndrome. To this end, I want to highlight the MDSC's annual Buddy Walk in Falmouth, which this past July brought people from all over the Commonwealth to advocate for heightened awareness, inclusion, and acceptance of people with Down syndrome. MDSC also held its annual National Buddy Walk on Washington, bringing over 150 people from more than 25 states together to Capitol Hill to advocate for legislation that positively impacts the lives of people with Down syndrome.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in continuing our efforts by recognizing October as National Down Syndrome Awareness Month. There is much work yet to be done. But, as our steadfast Massachusetts and national partners have demonstrated, together, we can make a difference for people with Down syndrome.

HONORING THE TOWN OF
KINGSTON SPRINGS

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2015

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the town of Kingston Springs on its 50th anniversary.

In December of 1965, a group of residents sought to incorporate and form a new municipality for this tight-knit community in Cheatham County, Tennessee. The original town serviced 290 residents with an annual budget of just over \$2,000. The very first election produced the town's first group of commissioners, Raymond Mays, John Frey and Terry Moore—who remained public servants in the community for decades to come.

Today, Kingston Springs is home to 2,771 residents and is thriving. With a walkable and historic downtown, 173 acres of parks and trails, a vibrant business community, adventurous outdoor recreation and a highly-rated fire protection service, its charm and character appeal to both residents and the entire Middle Tennessee community. In fact, Kingston Springs was recently named one of the safest cities in Tennessee and one of the top Nashville suburbs.

It's a privilege to represent the people of Kingston Springs. I congratulate the entire community on a successful 50 years, and wish them even more success to come.

HONORING THE GREATEST
GENERATION

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul Shinsky of Alvin, Texas for bravely serving the United States during World War II.

Mr. Shinsky valiantly served in the Army Air Corps as a co-pilot of a B-17 in the 384th Bomber Group during World War II. During the war, Mr. Shinsky's plane was taken down by German fire and he became a German prisoner of war. He says he survived his two years as a POW through God's grace and praying the Rosary. Recently, members from the 384th BG NexGen's veterans signing project came to Mr. Shinsky and asked him to sign a wing from an original B-17. This wing, with the signatures of Mr. Shinsky and other living members of the 384th Bomber Group, will be put in the Hill Aerospace Museum at Hill Air Force Base near Ogden, Utah. As a former Navy pilot, I am humbled by Paul's noble service to our country. He truly embodies the Greatest Generation.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas and all the brave men and women who have served our country, we thank Paul for his service.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,152,590,112,385.69. We've added \$7,525,713,063,472.61 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could